

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings and versions of claims in this application:

1. (Currently amended) A method for removing extraneous substances from recycling at least one textile absorber ~~used to absorb extraneous substances, said method comprising the steps of:~~ which comprises:

cleaning ~~said a~~ each textile absorber in a cleaning fluid consisting essentially of n-propyl bromide to remove a portion of the extraneous substances from ~~said~~ each textile absorber; and

separating an amount of cleaning fluid and the portion of extraneous substances from each cleaned textile absorber.

2. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 1, which further comprising comprises physically the steps of removing an initial portion of ~~said the~~ extraneous substances from ~~said~~ each textile absorber prior to cleaning ~~said~~ each textile absorber.

3. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 2, wherein ~~said the physically removing step is done by placing said textile absorber in a barrel to drain said~~ comprises draining the initial portion of the extraneous substances by gravity to separate the initial portion from each textile absorber.

4. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 2, wherein ~~said the physically removing step is done by placing said~~ comprises disposing each textile absorber on a grid to facilitate draining drain said the initial portion of the extraneous substances ~~by gravity away from each textile absorber.~~

5. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 2, where ~~said the removing comprises step is done by~~ centrifuging ~~said~~ each textile absorber.

6. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 5, wherein ~~said~~ the centrifuging takes place at a rate of at least 900 RPM.

7. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 5, wherein ~~said~~ the centrifuging takes places at a rate of 900 RPM to between 900 and 1200 RPM.

8. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 5, wherein ~~said~~ the centrifuging is done until less than approximately 2% extraneous substances remain in ~~said~~ each textile absorber.

9. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 5, wherein ~~said~~ the centrifuging is done until less than approximately 0.5% extraneous substances remain in ~~said~~ each textile absorber.

10. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 1, which further ~~comprising~~ comprises the step of distilling said the amount of cleaning fluid to remove one or more impurities so that the cleaning fluid can be reused ~~n-propyl bromide for reuse after said cleaning step.~~

11. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 10, wherein ~~said~~ the distilled cleaning fluid ~~n-propyl bromide~~ contains less than approximately 15% extraneous substances.

12. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 10, wherein ~~said~~ the distilled cleaning fluid ~~n-propyl bromide~~ contains less than approximately 5% extraneous substances.

13. (Currently amended) A method for removing extraneous substances from recycling at least one textile absorber used to absorb extraneous substances, said method comprising the steps of: which comprises:

~~removing a first portion of extraneous substances from a textile absorber used to absorb said the extraneous substances~~

dry cleaning said each textile absorber in reused cleaning fluid comprising n-propyl bromide to remove a first~~second~~ portion of said extraneous substances from said each textile absorber;

separating a first cleaning fluid portion and the first portion of extraneous substances from each dry cleaned textile absorber; and

distilling said the cleaning fluid n-propyl bromide to remove said an amount of the first ~~second~~ portion of extraneous substances therefrom said n-propyl bromide.

14. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 13, wherein said the cleaning fluid n-propyl bromide contains comprises less than approximately 15% extraneous substances.

15. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 13, wherein said the cleaning fluid n-propyl bromide contains comprises less than approximately 5% extraneous substances.

16. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 13, which further comprises physically wherein said removing an initial portion of extraneous substances from each textile absorber by gravity before the dry cleaning step is done by placing said textile absorber in a barrel to drain said first portion of extraneous substances by gravity.

17. (Cancelled).

18. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 13, which further comprises physically removing a first portion of extraneous substances from each textile absorber wherein said removing step is done by centrifuging said each textile absorber before the dry cleaning.

19. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 13, wherein said

dry cleaning step is done in an industrial dry cleaning machine having two distillers.

20. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 13, wherein ~~said~~ the reused cleaning fluid n-propyl bromide consists essentially of 100% n-propyl bromide after a plurality of dry cleaning, separating, and distilling steps.

21. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the cleaning fluid consists of n-propyl bromide.

22. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein each textile absorber comprises clothing and the cleaning comprises dry cleaning.

23. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the extraneous substances comprise one or more of dirt, dust, particulates, oils, grease, coolants, glycol or other solvents.

24. (New) A method for removing extraneous substances from one or more textile absorbers, which comprises:
storing at ambient temperature a cleaning fluid comprising n-propyl bromide;
and
cleaning each textile absorber with the cleaning fluid to remove a portion of the extraneous substances therefrom.

25. (New) A method for removing extraneous substances from one or more textile absorbers, which comprises:
containing a cleaning fluid comprising n-propyl bromide in a closed vessel to minimize evaporation;
circulating the cleaning fluid through a closed loop cleaning system so that a portion of the cleaning fluid contacts each textile absorber in a dry cleaning zone; and
dry cleaning each textile absorber in the dry cleaning zone to remove a portion of the extraneous substances therefrom;

wherein the closed loop cleaning system includes at least one pneumatic device comprising stainless steel to facilitate circulation of the cleaning fluid.

26. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein each pneumatic device is a ball valve that comprises at least one stainless steel ball.